

THE GOOD MORNING PROGRAM

What is this?

The Good Morning program is a daily safety check-in program for those who are older, have disabilities, live alone, are in transition from the hospital, or feel insecure or unsafe. The program provides reassurance to family and friends, particularly those who live away, and increased independence to registered participants.

How does the program work? Every morning, between the time they wake up and 9:30 A.M., registered participants call the Good Morning number to say they are O.K. Each morning at 9:30 trained volunteers check on all the participants. If they have not called in, the volunteers immediately begin the process of attempting to reach the participants or their contacts. If these efforts are unsuccessful, a well check is done by a police officer.

The original Good Morning program started initially in Bath four years ago and continues to be stationed at the Bath Police Station. One year later, Brunswick and Harpswell created a similar program, and housed their operation at the Brunswick Police Department. The Brunswick and Harpswell program uses volunteers to manage the seven-day a week operation, maintain the paperwork, oversee the volunteer training, and work as Coordinators. At this time, one third of our volunteers and participants are Harpswell residents.

Registering for the Good Morning program is a simple one-call process. Call the Brunswick Police Department at 725-5521 and ask Officer Goan for a Participant Application. Once an application has been returned to him, it usually takes less than a couple of days to add the participant to the active list. All participant registrations and volunteer applications are handled confidentially through Officer Goan. There is no fee for this program.

The Good Morning program is now available in Brunswick, Harpswell, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Richmond, and Topsham.